

Nanoscale Electromagnetic Elements: Computational Aspects

by

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A thesis

presented to the University of Technology Sydney

in fulfillment of the
requirement for the degree of
Master of Science 2007

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, 2007

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Abstract

The use of the Finite Difference Time Domain (FDTD) and the Transmission Line Matrix (TLM) algorithm to model nanoscale electromagnetic elements is investigated. It is found that comparable accuracy of the TLM algorithm to the FDTD algorithm combined with significant practical reductions in computation time render TLM a superior algorithm for nanoscale optoelectronic problems. It is also found that as the TLM algorithm implicitly incorporates “split fields” into its definition that it lends itself to a natural and simple implementation of the Berenger Perfectly Matched Layer from FDTD that appears not to have been reported in the literature. In the course of the research an extension to the Drude Lorentz complex permittivity model of gold is developed that provides coverage across the entire optical spectrum. This extended model is then used to validate the TLM algorithm against known the known optical response of a variety of objects including gold films, nano spheres and nano rods. The effect of coupling between elements of an array of nano scale objects is investigated with a consistent blue shift in the extinction spectra for arrays of closely spaced nanoscale objects observed.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my supervisors Mike Ford and Geoff Anstis as well as the Institute for Nanoscale Technology at the University of Technology Sydney for providing me with the opportunity to return to study after a long hiatus. Many thanks also to Matthew Arnold for reminding me that the universe is causal and for pointing me at Vial et al's gold model. Also thanks to Nadine Harris and Mike Cortie for producing DDScat nano rod results at short notice.

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